

FEBRUARY 17, 2006

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

There will be a public hearing meeting of the **Finance Labor Subcommittee** of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on **Thursday, February 23, 2006**, at the hour of **1:30 P.M.** in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois to consider the following:

275469 A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM THAT WILL REUNITE FAMILIES AND MEMORIALIZE THE ILLINOIS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO URGE THE PASSAGE OF PRIVATE BILL HR 3856 IN THE U.S. HOUSE, AND TO URGE THE INTRODUCTION AND PASSAGE IN THE U.S. SENATE AND ITS SIGNING BY PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH (PROPOSED RESOLUTION). Sponsored by Roberto Maldonado, John P. Daley, Joseph Mario Moreno and Larry Suffredin, County Commissioners.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United States has an undocumented population of eleven million immigrants, including half a million in Illinois, more than 300,000 of whom reside in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, U.S. citizen children who are born to a U.S. citizen or legal resident parent and an undocumented parent who faces deportation have become innocent victims of our inhumane immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, hard working immigrants who are employed in the underground system of undocumented labor, which has existed for over a century in this nation with the willing participation of business, religious and community institutions and many sectors of government, are being deported and separated from their U.S. citizen families; and

WHEREAS, 35 Illinois families, primarily from Cook County, have joined together on behalf of their 100 U.S. citizen children and U.S. citizen spouses to fight for the right of family reunification, waging a public campaign known as "La Familia Latina Unida" to save their families and other families throughout the nation from being torn apart by our broken immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Bobby Rush, with the support of Congressman Luis Gutierrez, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, and Congressman John Conyers, has introduced private bill HR 3856 to confer legal status on the mothers or fathers of these 35 families who have suffered, or will suffer, irreparable emotional and financial harm, and to allow for their permanent unification; and

WHEREAS, HR 3856 represents a consensus on the protection and preservation of family unity in the ongoing debate on the comprehensive reform of U.S. immigration laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the President and the Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby support comprehensive immigration reform that will reunite families and memorialize the Illinois Congressional delegation to urge the passage of private bill HR 3856 in the U.S. House, and to urge the introduction and passage in the U.S. Senate and its signing by President George W. Bush; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House, and the Illinois Congressional Delegation.

***Referred to the Committee on Finance Labor Subcommittee on
February 1, 2006.**

The public may testify at this meeting. Persons wishing to testify should give their name and the name of any organization they are representing to the Secretary to the Board, 118 North Clark Street, Room 567, Cook County Building, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, Telephone: (312) 603-6127. Also you can register at the above location, at the time of the meeting. Each organization will be limited to one speaker. Each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. Speakers are requested to submit 30 copies of any written statement to the Committee.

Michelle Harris, Secretary

Chairman: Murphy
Vice-Chairman: Moreno
Members: Butler, Gorman, Hansen, Maldonado, Sims